

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 17, 2006

SENATE BILL

No. 1678

Introduced by Senator Soto

February 24, 2006

An act to amend Sections 51121 and 51122 of, to add Article 5 (commencing with Section 51150) to Chapter 1.5 of Part 28 of, and to repeal and add Section 51124 of, the Education Code, relating to parental involvement, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1678, as amended, Soto. ~~California High School Exit Examination Early Intervention Home Visit Program. Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program: high school exit examination: home visits.~~

(1) Existing law establishes the Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program, pursuant to which the Superintendent of Public Instruction allocates grants to schools in accordance with prescribed criteria, for the purpose of strengthening communication between schools and parents. Existing law authorizes specified school districts or charter schools, the California School for the Deaf, or the California School for the Blind to operate a parent/teacher involvement program that includes certain elements, including that at least 50% of the teachers employed at the schoolsite voluntarily agree to participate in either periodic visits to the homes of their pupils or in community meetings. ~~Existing law provides that a school is eligible for no more than 3 grant awards under the program, and that the Superintendent may use up to \$75,000 to administer the program to the extent funds are made available for purposes of the program.~~

Existing law requires the Superintendent, with the approval of the State Board of Education, to develop a high school exit examination in English language arts and mathematics in accordance with state academic content standards. Existing law requires, commencing with the 2003–04 school year, each pupil completing grade 12 to successfully pass the high school exit examination as a condition of receiving a diploma of graduation or a condition of graduation from high school. Existing law requires each pupil to take the high school exit examination in grade 10 and authorizes a pupil to take the exit examination during each subsequent administration, until each section of the exit examination has been passed.

This bill would expand the group of schoolsite staff eligible to participate in the home visits and community meetings, as specified.

This bill would specify that the Superintendent is to coordinate and administer the program and to commence allocation of funds under the program in the 2007–08 school year. The bill would specify the purposes of the home visits under the program. The bill would instead authorize the Superintendent to use up to \$250,000 to administer the program to the extent funds are made available for purposes of the program. The bill would require the State Department of Education to evaluate the effectiveness of the program, as provided.

The bill would also make a statement of Legislative intent that up to 50% of the program funds be used for home visits related to early intervention for high school 10th graders who have failed one or more sections of the high school exit examination, as specified. The bill would require specified staff, as defined, to receive specified training. The bill would require a high school to create a team, as specified, with specified training before the high school would be eligible for program funds relating to high school exit examination home visits. The bill would require a participating high school's team to make visits, as specified.

The bill would require the Superintendent to allocate to qualifying schools with a pupil enrollment of 2,500 pupils or more, a grant of \$40,000. The bill would require the Superintendent to give funding priority to, among others, schools ranked in the lowest 3 deciles of the Academic Performance Index. The bill would provide additional criteria and requirements for schools that participate in the program for 3 or more consecutive years, as specified. The bill would require the Superintendent to report, among other things, data relating to schools that participate in the program, the amount of money

provided to each school, and data relating to schools that participate in specified home visits.

This bill would delete obsolete language and make technical, nonsubstantive changes.

This bill would appropriate \$30,000,000 for the purposes of the program. Funds appropriated by this bill would be applied toward the minimum funding requirements for school districts and community college districts imposed by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.

~~(2) This bill would establish the California High School Exit Examination Early Intervention Home Visit Program, to be coordinated and administered by the Superintendent, pursuant to which the Superintendent would allocate funding to eligible high schools for the purpose of conducting home visits to participating parents or guardians of pupils who have taken the high school exit examination for the first time in the 10th grade and have failed to pass one or both parts of the exit examination. The bill would require a high school, in order to be eligible for the program, to create a team of school staff, as provided, that will conduct the home visits. The bill would describe the purposes of the home visits and prescribe other requirements relating to the program. The bill would authorize the Superintendent to use up to \$250,000 to administer the program to the extent funds are made available for purposes of the program. The bill would require the State Department of Education to evaluate the effectiveness of the program, as provided.~~

~~This bill would appropriate \$20,000,000 for the purposes of the program. Funds appropriated by this bill would be applied toward the minimum funding requirements for school districts and community college districts imposed by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 51121 of the Education Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 51121. (a) The Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement
- 4 Program is hereby established for the purpose of providing grant
- 5 awards to schools in which a majority of teachers and parents

~~1 agree to strengthen the communication between schools and~~
~~2 parents as a means of improving pupil academic achievement.~~
3 *schools*ite staff, including teachers, counselors, classified staff,
4 *teaching* paraprofessionals, and other support staff, agree to
5 *develop and build trusting relationships between families and*
6 *school staff, thereby increasing communication and*
7 *accountability, which are key contributors to the academic and*
8 *social success of pupils.* The Superintendent shall coordinate and
9 administer the program.

10 *(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that up to 50 percent of*
11 *program funds be used for home visits related to early*
12 *intervention for high school 10th graders who have failed to pass*
13 *one or both sections of the California High School Exit*
14 *Examination (CAHSEE), except as set forth in paragraphs (1)*
15 *and (2).*

16 *(1) If, during any school year, the funding allocated to the*
17 *non-CAHSEE related home visits and community meetings*
18 *exceeds the amount necessary to meet the needs of eligible*
19 *schools, those funds shall automatically be made available for*
20 *CAHSEE related home visits.*

21 *(2) If, during any school year, the funding allocated for the*
22 *CAHSEE related home visits exceeds the amount necessary to*
23 *meet the needs of eligible schools, those funds shall*
24 *automatically be made available for non-CAHSEE related home*
25 *visits and community meetings.*

26 *(3) It is the intent of the Legislature that home visits conducted*
27 *under this subdivision help to ensure that families understand the*
28 *importance of the high school exit examination and have full*
29 *access to the information, support, and services necessary for*
30 *their children to successfully pass the high school exit*
31 *examination and graduate from high school.*

32 ~~(b)~~

33 *(c) Any school district or charter school that maintains*
34 *kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, the California*
35 *School for the Deaf, and the California School for the Blind may*
36 *operate a parent/teacher involvement program at any schoolsite*
37 *that meets each of the requirements set forth in subdivision (c).*

38 ~~(e)~~

39 *(d) The program shall include all of the following elements:*

(1) At least 50 percent of the ~~teachers staff~~ employed at the schoolsite, *including teachers, counselors, classified staff, teaching paraprofessionals, or other support staff*, voluntarily agree to participate in either periodic visits to the homes of their pupils or in community meetings that are held at times and locations that are convenient to parents.

~~(2) At least 50 percent of the parents or guardians of pupils enrolled at the schoolsite have voluntarily signed a parent/teacher/pupil compact in which parents agree to participate in periodic home visits or community meetings. The compact shall also encompass the elements of the parent involvement policy adopted by the state board on September 9, 1994.~~

~~(3) A teacher or teaching paraprofessional who participates in the program shall receive training in strategies for communicating effectively with parents and in conducting periodic home visits or community meetings. These strategies may include providing parents with guidance in how to reinforce educational objectives with their children at home.~~

(2) The staff team members of a participating school shall receive training from an organization with an established record of conducting home visits and in communicating effectively with parents. This training may include strategies for providing parents with guidance in the manner in which to reinforce educational objectives with their children at home.

~~(4)~~
~~(3) Teachers and teaching paraprofessionals, counselors, classified staff, teaching paraprofessionals, and other support staff shall be compensated for their participation in home visits or community meetings at an hourly rate comparable to their regular base salary.~~

(A) In order to be eligible to participate in the component of the program pertaining to the CAHSEE, a high school shall create a team of school staff, including, but not limited to, administrators, teachers, counselors, classified staff, teaching paraprofessionals, or other support staff, that are trained in conducting effective home visits and on the high school exit examination and the methods for preparing pupils to pass the high school exit examination and be successful in high school.

(B) A member or members of the staff team of a participating high school shall schedule and conduct, to the extent possible, two home visits to meet with the participating parent or guardian of a pupil after the first time the pupil fails to pass one or both parts of the high school exit examination to discuss the high school exit examination and successful completion of high school. It is the intent of the Legislature that the first home visit shall be conducted as soon as possible after the results of the high school exit examination become available, but no later than 60 days after receiving the results. The second home visit shall be conducted prior to the next date the pupil is scheduled to take the high school exit examination on a date deemed adequate by the staff team.

(d) It is the intent of the Legislature that all home visits and community meetings under the program be conducted by a pair or team that includes at least one certificated staff member, and, in the case of schools maintaining any or all of kindergarten and grades 1 to 5, inclusive, that includes the pupil's classroom teacher.

~~(5) A certification that participating teachers or participating teachers paired with teaching paraprofessionals will conduct home visits to a substantial percentage of the enrolled pupils whose parents or guardians have voluntarily signed a parent/teacher/pupil compact at least once annually or that, in the case of high schools or middle schools that participate in the program, will hold at least monthly community-based meetings at various sites located throughout the attendance area of the high school or middle school.~~

~~(d)~~

(e) The purpose of home visits pursuant to this article is to build trusting relationships between families and school staff, thereby increasing communication and accountability, which are key contributors to the academic and social success of pupils.

~~(e)~~

(f) For purposes of this article, "teaching paraprofessional" has the same meaning as in Section 44392.

~~(f)~~

(g) For purposes of this section, "community meetings" are periodic public meetings held by participating schools for the

1 purpose of strengthening communication between the schools
2 and parents for the improvement of pupil academic achievement.

3 SEC. 2. Section 51122 of the Education Code is amended to
4 read:

5 51122. (a) Commencing with the 2007–08 school year, the
6 Superintendent shall allocate funds to school districts and charter
7 schools that have certified to the Superintendent that they satisfy
8 the conditions of subdivision (c) of Section 51121. A qualifying
9 school with a pupil enrollment of fewer than 500 pupils shall
10 receive a grant of up to fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000). A
11 qualifying school with a pupil enrollment of 500 to 799 pupils,
12 inclusive, shall receive a grant of twenty thousand dollars
13 (\$20,000). A qualifying school with a pupil enrollment of 800 to
14 1,499 pupils, inclusive, shall receive a grant of thirty thousand
15 dollars (\$30,000). A qualifying school with a pupil enrollment of
16 1,500 ~~or more pupils to 2,499 pupils, inclusive,~~ shall receive a
17 grant of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000). *A qualifying*
18 *school with a pupil enrollment of 2,500 pupils or more shall*
19 *receive a grant of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000).*

20 (b) The funds received pursuant to this article may be used to
21 ~~compensate teachers and teaching paraprofessionals, to provide~~
22 ~~training to teachers and teaching paraprofessionals, and to defray~~
23 ~~compensate qualified trainers and participants who receive~~
24 ~~training, and to defray~~ other costs associated with the
25 implementation of the Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement
26 Program. A qualifying school shall be funded in the order of
27 receipt of an approval certification until all funds available for
28 the program have been apportioned.

29 (c) The total amount of the grants allocated pursuant to this
30 section may not exceed the total amount appropriated for the
31 purposes of this section.

32 (d) The Superintendent shall allocate funding appropriated for
33 this program to the California School for the Deaf, the California
34 School for the Blind, and schools ranked in the bottom five
35 deciles on the Academic Performance Index and shall give
36 funding priority to the California School for the Deaf, the
37 California School for the Blind, and schools ranked in the lowest
38 ~~two~~ *three* deciles.

1 ~~(1) For the first year of participation in the program, a school~~
2 ~~is eligible to receive a full grant award as listed in subdivision~~
3 ~~(a).~~

4 ~~(2) For the second year of participation in the program, a~~
5 ~~school is eligible to receive a grant award not greater than~~
6 ~~three-fourths of the appropriate amount listed in subdivision (a)~~
7 ~~and shall provide, from local funds, one-fourth of the appropriate~~
8 ~~amount listed in subdivision (a).~~

9 ~~(3) For the third year of participation in the program, a school~~
10 ~~is eligible to receive a grant award not greater than one-half of~~
11 ~~the appropriate amount listed in subdivision (a) and shall match~~
12 ~~state funding with the same amount of local funds.~~

13 ~~(4) A school is eligible for no more than three grant awards. A~~
14 ~~school that received a grant during the 2007–08 school year shall~~
15 ~~be considered to have completed a first year of participation in~~
16 ~~the program and is eligible to apply as a second year school.~~

17 ~~(e) After three consecutive years in the program, participating~~
18 ~~schools must increase local financial support for the program~~
19 ~~based on the following formula:~~

20 ~~(1) For the fourth year of participation in the program, a~~
21 ~~school is eligible to receive a grant award not greater than~~
22 ~~three-fourths of the appropriate amount listed in subdivision (a)~~
23 ~~and shall provide, from local funds, one-fourth of the appropriate~~
24 ~~amount specified in subdivision (a).~~

25 ~~(2) For the fifth and subsequent years of participation in the~~
26 ~~program, a school is eligible to receive a grant award not~~
27 ~~greater than one-half of the appropriate amount specified in~~
28 ~~subdivision (a).~~

29 ~~(e) Priority~~

30 ~~(f) It is the intent of the Legislature that priority for home~~
31 ~~visits shall be given to low-performing pupils.~~

32 ~~(f)~~

33 ~~(g) Schools may be eligible for funding pursuant to this article~~
34 ~~for each year from funds appropriated therefor in the annual~~
35 ~~Budget Act or in another enactment.~~

36 ~~(g)~~

37 ~~(h) The Superintendent may use up to two hundred fifty~~
38 ~~thousand dollars (\$250,000), to the extent funds are appropriated~~
39 ~~in the annual Budget Act or other enactment for purposes of the~~

1 Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program, to administer,
2 *report on, and evaluate* the program.

3 SEC. 3. Section 51124 of the Education Code is repealed.

4 SEC. 4. Section 51124 is added to the Education Code, to
5 read:

6 51124. (a) The department shall evaluate the effectiveness of
7 the program, with a focus on pupil outcomes, including, but not
8 limited to, the impact of the program on attendance rates,
9 discipline and behavioral issues, and academic achievement.

10 (b) *The Superintendent shall report the following:*

11 (1) *Data relating to schools that participate in the Nell Soto*
12 *Parent/Teacher Involvement Program.*

13 (2) *The amount of money that is being provided to each*
14 *school.*

15 (3) *For participating schools, data relating to schools that*
16 *participate in the non-CAHSEE related home visits and*
17 *community meetings.*

18 (4) *For participating schools, data relating to schools that*
19 *participate in the CAHSEE-related home visits.*

20 ~~SEC. 5. Article 5 (commencing with Section 51150) is added~~
21 ~~to Chapter 1.5 of Part 28 of the Education Code, to read:~~

22
23 ~~Article 5. California High School Exit Examination Early~~
24 ~~Intervention Home Visit Program~~
25

26 ~~51150. (a) The California High School Exit Examination~~
27 ~~Early Intervention Home Visit Program is hereby established.~~
28 ~~State funds appropriated for purposes of the program shall be~~
29 ~~directed to eligible high schools for the purpose of conducting~~
30 ~~home visits to the parents or guardians of pupils who have taken~~
31 ~~the high school exit examination, as set forth in Chapter 9~~
32 ~~(commencing with Section 60850) of Part 33, for the first time in~~
33 ~~the 10th grade and have failed to pass one or both parts of the~~
34 ~~high school exit examination. The Superintendent shall~~
35 ~~coordinate and administer the program and the program shall~~
36 ~~commence with the 2007-08 school year.~~

37 ~~(b) The purpose of the home visits pursuant to this article is to~~
38 ~~develop and build trusting relationships between families and~~
39 ~~school staff, thereby increasing communication and~~
40 ~~accountability, which are key contributors to the academic and~~

1 social success of pupils. The home visits shall ensure that
2 families understand the importance of the high school exit
3 examination and have full access to the support and services
4 necessary for the successful passage of the high school exit
5 examination and graduation from high school for their child.

6 51151. (a) In order to be eligible to participate in the
7 program, a high school shall create a team of school staff,
8 including, but not limited to, administrators, teachers, counselors,
9 classified staff, teaching paraprofessionals, or other support staff,
10 that are trained on the high school exit examination and the
11 methods for preparing pupils to pass the high school exit
12 examination and be successful in high school.

13 (b) The staff team members of a participating high school shall
14 receive training from an organization with a proven track record
15 of conducting home visits and in communicating effectively with
16 parents.

17 (c) A participating high school shall notify the parent or
18 guardian of a pupil in the 10th grade of the failure of the pupil to
19 successfully pass one or both parts of the high school exit
20 examination within two weeks of receiving the examination
21 results and offer the services of the staff team to conduct home
22 visits. Home visits shall be conducted only with parents or
23 guardians who have voluntarily agreed to participate.

24 (d) A member or members of the staff team of a participating
25 high school shall schedule and conduct, to the extent possible,
26 two home visits to meet with the participating parent or guardian
27 of a pupil after the first time the pupil fails to pass one or both
28 parts of the high school exit examination to discuss the high
29 school exit examination and successful completion of high
30 school. The first home visit shall be conducted as soon as
31 possible after the results of the high school exit examination
32 become available, but no later than 60 days after receiving the
33 results. The second home visit shall be conducted prior to the
34 next date the pupil is scheduled to take the high school exit
35 examination on a date deemed adequate by the staff team.

36 (e) Members of the staff team shall be compensated for their
37 participation in home visits at an hourly rate comparable to their
38 regular base salary.

1 ~~51152. (a) The Superintendent shall allocate funding~~
2 ~~appropriated for this program to high schools that are eligible to~~
3 ~~participate in the program for purposes of the program.~~

4 ~~(b) The Superintendent may use up to two hundred fifty~~
5 ~~thousand dollars (\$250,000), to the extent funds are appropriated~~
6 ~~in the annual Budget Act or other enactment for purposes of the~~
7 ~~California High School Exit Examination Early Intervention~~
8 ~~Home Visit Program, to administer the program.~~

9 ~~51153. The department shall evaluate the effectiveness of the~~
10 ~~program, with a focus on pupil outcomes, including, but not~~
11 ~~limited to, the high school exit examination pass rates of~~
12 ~~participating pupils.~~

13 ~~SEC. 6.~~

14 ~~SEC. 5. The sum of fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) thirty~~
15 ~~million dollars (\$30,000,000) is hereby appropriated from the~~
16 ~~General Fund to the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be~~
17 ~~allocated in accordance with the following schedule:~~

18 ~~(a) Thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) for purposes of the~~
19 ~~Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program (Article 2~~
20 ~~(commencing with Section 51120) of Chapter 1.5 of Part 28 of~~
21 ~~the Education Code).~~

22 ~~(b) Twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) for purposes of the~~
23 ~~California High School Exit Examination Early Intervention~~
24 ~~Home Visit Program (Article 5 (commencing with Section~~
25 ~~51150) of Chapter 1.5 of Part 28 of the Education Code); for the~~
26 ~~purposes of the Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program~~
27 ~~(Article 2 (commencing with Section 51120) of Chapter 1.5 of~~
28 ~~Part 28 of the Education Code).~~